

Patent Attorney's Docket No. <u>020600-283</u>

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of	)	al
Günter SCHMIDT et al.	) Group Art Unit: 1653	" (
Application No. Unassigned (Corresponds to PCT/GB98/02048)	) Examiner: Unassigned	
Filed: January 10, 2000	)	
For: CHARACTERISING NUCLEIC	) )	
ACIDS	)	

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please first amend the above-identified application as follows:

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

Claim 13, line 1, please delete "or claim 6".

Claim 15, line 1, please delete "any one of claims 4 to 7" and insert therefor --claim 4--.

Claim 16, line 1, please delete "any one of claims 3 to 10 or 13 to 15" and insert therefor --claim 3--.

Claim 17, line 1, please delete "any one of claims 2 to 10 or 13 to 16" and insert therefor --claim 2--.

Claim 18, line 1, please delete "any one of claims 2 to 17" and insert therefor